

CLAIMS

1. A soluble protein having IL4 and/or IL13 antagonist or partial antagonist activity,
5 comprising an IL4 mutant or variant fused to least one human immunoglobulin constant domain or fragment thereof.
2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein at least one amino acid, naturally
occurring in wild type IL4 at any one of positions 120 to 128 inclusive, is replaced by a
10 different natural amino acid.
3. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the tyrosine naturally occurring at
position 124 is replaced by a different natural amino acid.
- 15 4. A compound according to claim 3, wherein the tyrosine naturally occurring at
position 124 is replaced by aspartic acid.
5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the immunoglobulin is of the IgG
subclass
20 6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein the constant domain(s) or fragment
thereof is the whole or a substantial part of the constant region of the heavy chain of
human IgG.
- 25 7. A compound according to claim 5, wherein the constant domain(s) or fragment
thereof is the whole or a substantial part of the constant region of the heavy chain of
human IgG4.
8. A compound according to claim 1, having the amino acid sequence represented by
30 SEQ ID No:4, SEQ ID No:7 or SEQ ID No:10.
9. A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1, which process comprises
expressing DNA encoding said compound in a recombinant host cell and recovering the
product.

10. A process according to claim 9, which comprises:
- i) preparing a replicable expression vector capable, in a host cell, of expressing a DNA polymer comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes said compound;
 - ii) transforming a host cell with said vector;
 - 5 iii) culturing said transformed host cell under conditions permitting expression of said DNA polymer to produce said compound; and
 - iv) recovering said compound.
11. A DNA polymer comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a compound
- 10 according to claim 1.
12. A DNA polymer according to claim 11, which comprises or consists of the sequence of SEQ ID No:3, SEQ ID No:6 or SEQ ID No:9.
- 15 13. A replicable expression vector comprising a DNA polymer according to claim 11.
14. A host cell transformed with a replicable expression vector according to claim 13.
- 15 A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a
- 20 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
16. A method of treating conditions resulting from undesirable actions of IL4 and/or IL13 which comprises administering to the sufferer an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.